Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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R 180857Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 549
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMCONSUL LUANDA
AMCONSUL OPORTO
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, AO, PO, CV, CG SUBJ: SPINOLA-MOBUTU MEETING

SUMMARY: OTHER THAN A BRIEF COMMUNIQUE, SUBSTANCE OF SPINOLA-MOBUTU TALKS IS UNKNOWN. POSSIBLE SECRET ANGOLAN GUERRILLA PARTICIPATION IN MEETING NOT YET ASCERTAINED. END SUMMARY.

1. LEAD ARTICLES IN SEPT. 16 LISBON PRESS REPORT ON SEPT. 14 MEETING OF PRESIDENTS SPINOLA AND MOBUTU ON CAPE VERDE ISLANDS. BRIEF FINAL COMMUNIQUE SAYS"THE PRESIDENTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAIRE AND PORTUGAL MET ON THE ISLAND OF SAL TO EXCHANGE POINTS OF VIEW. PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE PROCESS OF DECOLONIZATION IN PORTUGUESE AFRICA WERE DISCUSSED, AMONG OTHER SUBJECTS."

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS, SPINOLA PARTY INCLUDED MIN. OF DEFENSE FIRMINO MIGUEL, MIN. OF INTERTERRITORIAL COORDINATION ALMEIDA SANTOS, CHIEF OF MILITARY HOUSEHOLD LT. COL. ALMEIDA BRUNO, CHIEF OF CIVILIAN CABINET COL. DIAS CONFIDENTIAL

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DE LIMA, AND THE PORTUGUESE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL.

- 3. PRESS ALSO REPORTS MOBUTU'S DELEGATION AS CONSISTING OF CHIEF OF CIVILIAN CABINET BISENGIMANE RWENA, COUNSELOR BULA MANDUNGO AND THE ZAIREAN CHIEF OF PROTOCOL.
- 4. FOLLOWING A LUNCHEON BETWEEN THE TWO PRESIDENTS AND ENTOURAGES, INCLUDING THE MILITARY COMMANDER OF SAL, LT. COL. ANTONIO JOSE DOS SANTOS, SPINOLA AND MOBUTU MET FOR ONE HOUR AND A HALF BEHIND CLOSED DOORS. PRESS REPORTS REVEAL NOTHING ON SUBSTANCE OF TALKS.
- 5. COMMENT: ACCORDING TO RUMORS AROUND LISBON THE SAL MEETING WAS TO HAVE INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES OF ANGOLAN GUERRILLA GROUPS. THERE IS NO INDICATION YET ONE OR MORE LEADERS DID PARTICIPATE IN SECRET TALKS. FEW MEMBERS OF THE PRESS CORPS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN PRESENT AND A SECRET MEETING COULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE. FORMIN SOARES SUGGESTED TO EMBOFFS SEPT. 13 THAT SAVIMBI (PRESIDENT OF UNITA) WAS SICK AND FOR THAT REASON COULD NOT POSSIBLY ATTEND.
- 6. SEPT. 17 LISBON "O SECULO" GIVES CREDENCE TO THEORY OF SECRET TALKS IN QUOTATION FROM LUANDA EVENING "A PROVINCIA DE ANGOLA" COMMENT THAT SAL COMMUNIQUE AND NEWS AGNECIES DID NOT SAY BUT LEFT OPEN THE QUESTION WHETHER FORMIN SOARES AND HOLDEN ROBERTO (MPLA) WERE PRESENT AT THE TALKS.

 SCOTT

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